

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S.818**

(Doc. No. 11771ac05.doc)

TO:	The Honorable Harvey S. Peeler, Chairman, Senate Medical Affairs Committee		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	R.J. Stein		
DATE:	May 16, 2005	SBD:	2005495

AUTHOR:	Senator Gregory	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	44-113-20
SUBJECT:	Provider Self-Referral Act Definition		

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

BILL SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 818 amends Section 44-113-20(10)(a) of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976 by revising the definition of the term "investment interest." Under current law, a health care provider may not refer a patient to an entity in which the health care provider has an "investment interest." However, certain "investment interests" are exempt from this provision. Currently, Section 44-113-20(10)(a) exempts entities that are the sole providers of designated health services in a rural area. Senate Bill 818 would amend this definition by extending the exemption to entities in a rural area that provide 75% or more of designated health services to residents of that rural area.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

This Bill affects only the service providers to which a physician may refer a patient. There is no impact on the General Fund of the State or on Federal and/or Other Funds.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:



Don Addy
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget